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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Water Rights

KENT L. JONES
State Engineer/Division Director

August 24, 2010

New Castle Reservoir Co.
Mason Jones, President
PO Box 146
New Castle UT 84756

RE: SEAA 1327: Measuring Device Notice, Conditional Fulfillment of Compliance Requirements

TO: New Castle Reservoir Company:

On September 21, 2009 the State Engineer initiated the referenced agency action and sent you a notice of the statutory requirement to install and maintain two measuring devices on the Pinto Creek associated with your Grass Valley Tunnel Diversion water rights. That notice required the installation of measuring devices below the tunnel outlet and on the Pinto Creek just above New Castle Reservoir.

My recent inspection indicates the USGS has installed a measuring station with a satellite uplink at the location on Pinto Creek above the reservoir, as long as this location remains operable, it meets the requirements for the lower location. This station can be accessed on the USGS website under: USGS 10242300 PINTO CREEK NEAR NEWCASTLE, UTAH

At the Grass Valley tunnel outlet, New Castle installed a contracted rectangular weir, along with a wet well that is monitoring capable. This measuring device needs additional work to deepen the stilling basin or raise the weir height (or both) to create suitable (non turbulent) entry conditions for reliable readings. A staff gauge should be mounted where it is visible from the approach side of the creek bed. I would suggest this work is completed in the near future (before winter), while the tunnel diversion is dry. Additional armoring may also be required to prevent erosion and washout along the sides of the weir. This letter provides conditional acceptance in fulfillment of the subject measuring device compliance notice SEAA 1327, provided that conditions with the rectangular weir are corrected as described. Please advise me when this work has been completed.

I will be working with USGS and/or Washington County Water Conservancy District to establish telemetry at the tunnel outlet weir. They may be attaching equipment to your measuring device at some time in the future. New Castle's assistance in preventing vandalism to the site equipment would be appreciated. Thank you for your cooperation in attending to this in a timely matter. If you have any questions concerning this notice please contact me by phone at 801 538-7430.

Sincerely,
Mike Silva 
Distribution Engineer

Cc: Kurt Vest, Regional Engineer
Kerry Carpenter, Enforcement Engineer
Todd Terry B-E Water Commissioner
File SEAA 1327

